

Message Text

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ACTION STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 DRC-01

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P R 051010Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6116

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

US MISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 5487

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: GATT, US, EC

SUBJECT: GATT ARTICLE XXIV:6 NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 234831; (B) EC BRUSSELS 6965; (C) BONN 17274

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. AT THE END OF ITS DECEMBER 3-4 MEETING, THE EC COUNCIL ISSUED THE FOLLOWING PRESS STATEMENT: QUOTE THE COUNCIL VIRTUALLY SETTLED THE QUESTION OF THE LIST OF EXTRA CONCESSIONS TO BE MADE BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE COMMUNITY, WITH A VIEW TO CONCLUDING RENEGOTIATIONS

UNDER ARTICLE XXIV/6 OF THE GATT, WITH THE EXCEPTION, HOWEVER, OF CERTAIN ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONCESSION ON ONE PRODUCT, ON WHICH AGREEMENT IS EXPECTED IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. UNQUOTE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN LOU. ACCORDING TO SEVERAL SOURCES, INCLUDING HANNAY, SOAMES' CHEF DE CABINET, THE ARTICLE XXIV:6 NEGOTIATIONS WERE DISCUSSED ON BOTH DAYS OF THE EC COUNCIL MEETING AS WELL AS IN THE CORRIDORS WITH THE COMMISSION MAKING STRENUOUS EFFORTS TO GET THE MATTER SETTLED. HANNAY CONFIRMED THAT EVERYTHING IS NOW SET EXCEPT FOR THE GSP OFFER ON CANNED PINEAPPLES. AN EFFORT TO ISOLATE THIS PROBLEM OUT AND TREAT IT SEPARATELY FROM THE GENERAL OFFER OF MFN TARIFF CONCESSIONS FAILED AT THE LAST MINUTE ON DECEMBER 4 IN WHAT WAS APPARENTLY A CONFUSED PROCEDURAL DEBATE. HANNAY INDICATES THAT THE EC PERM REPS WILL PROBABLY CONSIDER THE MATTER AGAIN TODAY (DECEMBER 5) OR TOMORROW WITH A VIEW TO SETTLING IT.

3. ACCORDING TO A DIFFERENT SOURCE, THERE HAVE BEEN NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES ON THE ITEMS IN THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSED LIST OF CONCESSIONS TO THIRD COUNTRIES AS COMPARED WITH INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE OFFER ON KRAFT LINER WILL INVOLVE AN MFN REDUCTION FROM 12 PERCENT TO 9 PERCENT PHASED OVER TIME. END LOU. HARTMAN

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